

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A waterproof connector, comprising:

a connector housing accommodating a plurality of cavities for receiving terminal fittings connected to ends of electric wires, the cavities having rear open ends formed on a rear surface of said connector housing;

a rubber plug having opposite front and rear surfaces that are substantially planar in an unbiased condition of said plug, through-holes extending through the rubber plug from the front surface to the rear surface at positions corresponding to said respective cavities, through which said electric wires are penetrated with said electric wires in close contact with said through-holes; and

a rubber plug hold-down member having a front surface that presses said rear surface of said rubber plug for urging said rubber plug against a the rear surface of said connector housing and the rubber plug hold-down member has a plurality of open portions through which said electric wires can be inserted;

wherein at least one ~~inner-side-waterproof~~ rib projects from at least one of said rear surface of said connector housing and ~~a the front surface of said rubber plug hold-down member~~ so that said ~~inner-side-waterproof~~ rib is pressed against at least one of said front and rear surfaces of said rubber plug ~~and said rear surface of said connector housing~~ when said rubber plug is pressed against said rear surface of said connector housing for urging at least one of said front and rear surfaces of said rubber plug into a nonplanar configuration whereby a water penetration path passing inwards through a peripheral portion of said rubber plug is cut off before reaching said rear open ends of said cavities.

2. (canceled).

3. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein said ~~outer-side-waterproof~~ rib surrounds a region corresponding to said rear open ends of said cavities collectively.

4. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein said at least one ~~outer-side-waterproof~~ rib comprises a plurality of ~~outer-side~~ waterproof ribs surrounding regions corresponding respectively to said rear open ends.

5. (canceled).

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 1, wherein said rear open ends of said cavities are formed ~~on a rear surface of said connector housing to form in~~ a rubber plug accommodation part capable of accommodating said rubber plug; and seal lips capable of water-tightly contacting an inner peripheral surface of said rubber plug accommodation part are formed on a peripheral surface of said rubber plug.

8. (currently amended) A waterproof connector, comprising:

a connector housing with opposite front and rear ends and a plurality of cavities extending through the connector housing, such that each said cavity has an open rear end at the rear end of said connector housing;

a rubber plug having opposite front and rear surfaces, the front and rear surfaces being substantially planar in an unbiased condition of the rubber plug, the front surface of the rubber plug being mounted to the rear end of the connector housing, the rubber plug having through-holes at positions corresponding to said respective cavities; and

a rubber plug hold-down member mounted to the connector housing and having a front surface that presses said rubber plug against the rear end of said connector housing, the rubber plug hold-down member having a plurality of open portions aligned respectively with the through-holes of the rubber plug;

wherein at least one ~~inner-side-waterproof~~ rib projects from ~~at least one of~~ said rear end of said connector housing and ~~the front surface of said rubber plug~~ so that said ~~inner-side-waterproof~~ rib is pressed against ~~at least one of~~ said front surface of said rubber plug and ~~said rear surface of said connector housing~~ when said rubber plug is pressed against said rear surface of said connector housing, so that the front surface is biased into a nonplanar condition by the waterproof rib for secure sealing around the cavities.

9. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 8, wherein said ~~inner-side-waterproof~~ rib surrounds a region corresponding to all of said open rear ends.

10. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 8, wherein the at least one ~~inner-side-waterproof~~ rib comprises a plurality of ~~inner-side-water-proof~~ waterproof ribs surrounding regions corresponding respectively to said open rear ends.